

State Youth Council
Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2005, 8:30 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.
Provo Marriot
Provo, Utah

Attending: Rich Parks, Rich Parks, Salt Lake County YouthBuild Wayne Griffin, DCFS Roosevelt Paul Jackson, Intermountain Health Care and Central Region Youth Council Chair Tom Darais, DHS Juvenile Justice	Cecil Robinson, Juvenile Justice and Wasatch North Regional Youth Council Chair Rickie Bryant, AFLCIO and Mountainland Regional Youth Council Chair Valynn Bevan, Clearfield Job Corps Pamela Russell, DCFS
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Excused: Marie Christman, Deputy Director, DHS and Chair, State Youth Council

DWS Staff: Jane Broadhead Rod Barlow Lesnie Foster Ann Barnson Melissa Finch Julie Lay	Julie Anderson Steve Jensen Steve Leyba Pam Julian Charles Daud
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Guests: Sheri Lundin, Futures Through Training Mary Jane McGuire, Futures Through Training	Kristine Dobson, Utah Career Resource Network Kevin Mill, SLCC Skills Center Rod Crockett, Provo School District Jan Lunt, Davis School District
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WELCOME – Jane Broadhead welcomed all and thanked them for attending. She conducted the meeting today for Marie Christman. Marie is a Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services, and is the new Chair of the State Youth Council. She had a scheduled engagement this week, so could not be here today. She will conduct the January, and future meetings. There is a biography about her in the current issue of the SYC newsletter. Jane encouraged the group to review it, and the rest of the information in this version. This edition highlights successful youth across the state.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Jane

Jane entertained a motion for approval of minutes for July 14, 2005. Drew groups attention to the Note on the second page. We had prematurely approved the Salt Lake County WIA Youth contract in the July meeting; the Central Regional Youth Council had not acted on it. Rich Parks made a motion to approve. Paul Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SL COUNTY YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY CONTRACT – Central region been through RFP process and has selected SL County to be the provider for WIA youth services for Salt Lake and Tooele Counties. There was an interesting negotiation process over course of summer and the YES program moved into DWS building at 1385 South State, October 1. This is a move in the right direction, making the WIA youth program in the Central Region part of the One-Stop delivery process. The model for co-locating WIA youth services with DWS evolved in the Mountainland region. It has been very successful.

The State Youth Council must approve the actions recommended at the regional level, and then take a motion to the State Council for final ratification. Jane entertained a motion to approve the contract. Paul Jackson made a motion for approval. Wayne Griffin seconded the motion. The motion carried. Paul emphasized this is the same contractor but the service delivery expectations are different from original contract. Melissa Finch asked if Central could share the contract with other regions for informational purposes. The Mountainland Region will soon announce an RFP and go through the process of putting a new contract in place. Jane will share it with any requesting region via email.

CONTRACT MONITORING – Annual contract monitoring, required by the Department of Labor, is to ensure that WIA program delivery happens according to the intent of the law, and with integrity. It is also for providing justification to extend contracts for another year. (The WIA youth contract period is for one-year, with the possibility of four additional one-year extensions periods, when monitoring indicates compliance.) Contract extensions occur because of monitoring.

A combination state and regional level monitoring team reviews contracted services. The same process and scrutiny applies to DWS delivered services, although the Contract unit is not involved. The current monitoring period is for the most recently completed Program Year, through the current date. (July 2004, through the date monitoring occurs.) DWS conducts a detailed review of both program and fiscal processes. The compliance expectation is 88%, which allows an error rate of 12%. To prevent the possibility of disallowed costs, providers must fix any errors in eligibility determination. If the overall error rate is greater than 12%, the monitoring team creates a corrective action plan.

The PY2004 review of the Mountainland Consortium of Schools is an example of a clean monitoring episode. The original compliance rate was 89%. There was no need for corrective action; however, staff fixed the cases that they could. The five-year contract period for this contract ends in July 2006. The Mountainland Region plans to announce an RFP early in 2006 for a new service cycle.

Monitoring is in process for Futures Through Training, the contract provider in the North Region. The SYC will review results at the January meeting.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOME REPORTS (handout) – The report date for the data presented is 09/14/05. The WIA Annual Report due date was 10/01/05. The information reviewed was the quarterly rather annual report, but the differences are insignificant. There are nine performance outcomes that apply to WIA youth, four for older youth, 3 for younger youth, and 2 customer satisfaction measures. The statewide results are:

Category	Planned Level	Level Met	Difference
Older Youth			
Entered Employment	75%	72.3%	-2.7%
Employment Retention	81%	76.6%	-4.4%
Earnings Change	\$2,700	\$3,166	\$466

Credential	60%	62.6%	2.6%
Younger Youth			
Skill Attainment	89%	73.9%	-15.1%
Diploma/GED Attainment	61%	67.6%	6.6%
Retention	67%	68.5%	1.5%
Customer Satisfaction			
Participant	71%	74.8%	3.8%
Employer	77%	77%	4%

Jane asked that SYC members and DWS staff from the Regions take the outcomes information to the Regional Youth Councils. Everyone needs to understand that improvement is necessary in various outcomes in various regions. (Regional details are in the Council booklet.) Since Regional Youth Councils provide oversight to the local programs, please pay attention to the detail of your region.

BUDGET REPORTS—09/15/05

The WIA law requires 30% expenditure on out-of-school youth. The important feature of the budget report is the ratios of funding spent on in-school and out-of-school youth. Utah is requiring a higher percentage spent on out-of-school youth, a 50/50 split. The final report for PY2004 (State Fiscal Year 2005) says 64.5% spent on out-of-school youth.

The data for the current program year 2005 (State Fiscal year 2006) says 47.5% of the budget spent on out-of-school youth. There is no cause for alarm. Regional Youth Councils need to encourage providers to increase spending on out-of-school youth. By the end of the program year, June 2006, we need to achieve 50% expenditure level for out-of-school youth.

TRANSITION TO ADULT LIVING - PAM RUSSELL, DIVISION OF CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

Pam Russell provided an update about Transition to Adult Living (TAL). She expressed appreciation for being part of the SYC and being able to give an update. The TAL initiative is going well. DCFS and DWS have entered into a contract to have Education and Training Voucher (ETV) money delivered through the UWORKS system. Eligible youth are co-enrolled in WIA and ETV, and we use both fund sources, as necessary, to support post-secondary education. This program is for youth who graduated from high school or obtained a GED, aged out of foster care at 18, and enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution. More than \$100,000.00 went to 46 eligible youth. The original contract was from September 2004 to June 2005. Agency directors recently signed an amendment, extending the contract through June 2006. Pam acknowledged that we do not expect 100% success with these vulnerable youth; but said that only three young people have dropped out of the program. The partnership helps ensure that we meet the needs of the youth. DWS and the WIA youth providers help with career planning and inform participants of high-growth industries and occupation. Academic assessment helps ensure that participants are prepared for the rigors of post-secondary education.

DCFS held the annual two-day Youth Summit last month at Aspen Grove in Provo Canyon. Over 90 youth attended. The focus this year was exclusively on the youth, and the theme was Keep It Real. Youth in foster care planned the event, with adult supervision. They wanted information about jobs and career planning, and arranged a mini-job fair as one of the activities. Ten businesses from around the state participated. It included hands-on workshops to “test” what it was like in various jobs. Two community services projects happened in the Aspen Grove campground; they planted 125 trees, and built arts and crafts tables. They learned valuable lessons about being good citizens and giving back to their communities.

Planning next year's summit began with a follow up meeting yesterday. For the sake of consistency, they would like to have it at Aspen Grove again next year and maybe future years. Pam would like to ensure that the important connection with community partners does not diminish. She will encourage the youth to invite partners for a ½ day to keep the connection alive.

Pam is in the process of revising the DCFS Practice Guidelines for adolescents and independent living. The anticipated completion date for the draft is the end of December. One of the changes is organizing state and regional youth advisory councils comprised of youth in foster care and alumni. Pam would like to involve DWS' State and Regional Youth Councils. She envisions the DWS State and Regional Youth Councils being the organization the youth bring issues to for assistance with resolution. The process is in its infancy, but she thinks the relationship would benefit both the youth and the DWS Councils. Another focus point is reviewing the training model for foster parents, and the rate structure. The change in this area should improve the way adolescents in foster care are prepared to live successfully as adults. She will continue updating us about progress with this element.

Housing for youth aging out of foster care is still an issue and will likely be one in the future. A task group of the TAL Implementation Team is working on ways to resolve the problem. The goal of the task group is to increase availability of low-income housing for youth and prevent homelessness. The North Region Local Partnership Agreement pilot project included the local housing authority in their partnership. They have experienced some success.

Rich asked how the housing project in the North Region pilot was organized. Pam indicated that Richard Walker, Director of Housing, Division of Housing and Community Development, (State Department of Community and Culture), helped find a privately owned apartment complex and worked with them to designate a certain number of units for TAL youth at a reduced rental rate. DCFS, in essence, "underwrites" the rental liability, so the property owner is covered if there is damage or a youth disappears. The DCFS Independent Living Coordinator is an intermediary between the property owner and the youth, if necessary. ETV funds cover the cost of housing, including university housing for eligible youth. Several apartment owners may have one or two units to help TAL youth.

Melissa Finch asked a question about services for youth in foster care who have disabilities. She suggested that the Just for Youth website include a link to the Division of Rehabilitation Services website. Pam concurred. Jane mention that youth with disabilities served with WIA funds need to be youth who have the ability to benefit from the program. Melissa said she attended an interesting breakout session at the National Association of Workforce Boards conference about resources for people with disabilities. She will send Jane a checklist of resources available from the conference.

OTHER BUSINESS – The updated WIA Youth Service Priority System goes into effect Nov 1. Jane mentioned that she appreciates the work that all Regional Youth Councils did on updating them. If they have not already been submitted, Jane needs them by the end of October.

Next meeting is January 12. Meeting Adjourned.